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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to 703-872-9308 (Centralized Facsimile Number for TC 2600), addressed to: Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 7, 2004 (date of facsimile transmission)

GEORGANN S. GRUNEBAUGH (Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)

Registration No. 33,179

(Signature)

(Date of Signature)

Customer Number 020991

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APR - 7 2004

OFFICIAL

PATENT
Docket No. PD-990309

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Date: April 7, 2004

John T. Austin

Serial No. 09/732,837

Group Art Unit: 2633

Filed: 12/07/2000

Examiner: Payne, David C.

For: HYBRID SATELLITE AND FIBER COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2004, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

APR - 7 2004

FAX COVER SHEET

OFFICIAL

PLEASE CONFIRM RECEIPT OF THIS FACSIMILE

Attention: Examiner: Payne, David C.

Supervising Examiner: Chan, Jason

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Payne, David C.

Supervising Examiner: Chan, Jason

Pages: Cover + 1+10 = 12

Certificate of Transmission

From: Georgann S. Grunebach

Assistant General Counsel

Fax: (703) 872-9306

Phone: (703) 306-0004

Phone: (703) 305-4729

Date: April 7, 2004

Fax: (310) 964-0941

Phone: (310) 964-4615

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Certification of Facsimile Transmission UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that the correspondence identified below is being facsimile transmitted to (703) 872-9306 (Centralized Facsimile Number), addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 7, 2004.

Georgann S. Grunebach
Georgann S. Grunebach, Reg. No. 33,179*April 7, 2004*
Date

Attention: Commissioner for Patents

Please find attached Re:

Inventor: Austin, John T.

Serial No.: 09/732,837

Filed: December 7, 2000

For: HYBRID SATELLITE AND FIBER COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

- > Amendment Transmittal
- > Response to PTO Office Action of 1/29/2004

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If you do not receive all pages, or pages are not clear, please call Karen Lum at (310) 964-0735.

CUSTOMER NO.: 020991

PATENT
Docket No. PD-990309**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re Application of: Austin, John T.
Serial No. 09/732,837
Filed: December 7, 2000
For: HYBRID SATELLITE AND FIBER COMMUNICATION SYSTEMDate: April 7, 2004
Group Art Unit: 2633
Examiner: Payne, David C.**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P. O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

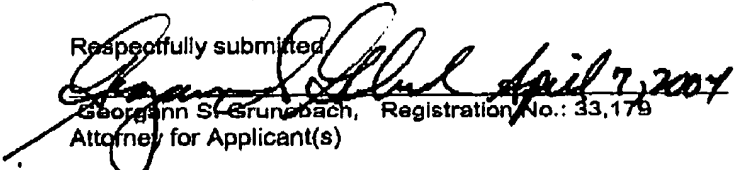
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

Applicant petitions for an extension of time for months(s) to respond to the Office Action dated _____
If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.
Fee \$ _____An extension for _____ months(s) has already been secured; the fee paid therefor of _____
is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. \$ _____
Extension fee due with this request \$ _____☒ Applicant believes that no extension of time is required to respond to the Office Action dated January 29, 2004.
However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.☒ No additional fee for claims is required.☒ The fee for claims has been calculated as shown below:

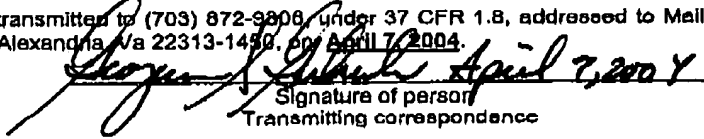
CLAIMS AS AMENDED							
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE			
TOTAL CLAIMS 10 minus	20* =	0 x	\$ 18.00	\$ -0-			
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 4 minus	4* =	1 x	\$ 84.00	\$ -0-			
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS		x	\$ 280.00	\$ -0-			
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:				\$ -0-			

Charge \$-0- to Deposit Account No. 50-0383 of Hughes Electronics Corporation, El Segundo, California. Please charge any additional fees for claims or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. If any additional extension fee is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-0383.

Respectfully submitted,


Georgann S. Grunbach, Registration No.: 33,179
Attorney for Applicant(s)**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to (703) 872-9808, under 37 CFR 1.8, addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 7, 2004.

Georgann S. Grunbach, Reg. No. 33,179Typed or printed name of person
Transmitting correspondence
Signature of person
Transmitting correspondenceCUSTOMER NUMBER 020991
The DIRECTV Group, Inc.
Patent Docket Administration
PO Box 956, RE/R11/A109
El Segundo, CA 90245-0956
Telephone: (310) 964-4615
Date: April 7, 2004* If less than 20, insert 20
** If less than 3, insert 3

09-516 (7/03)